

# 16 ARRESTED IN ARMY RAILCOAT FRAUD CHARGES

Thirteen Firms Involved—  
Austrian Held as  
Go Between.

BRIEBRY PLOT ALLEGED  
Inferior Output and Traffic in  
Contracts Part of  
Accusation.

Sixteen directing officers of thirteen  
railcoat manufacturing concerns that  
have army contracts aggregating \$10-  
000,000, were arrested last night in  
Manhattan and Brooklyn, charged with  
bribery or conspiracy to defraud the  
Government.

Felix Gould, a man of Austrian birth,  
also was arrested. He is charged with  
being the go-between who used mysteri-  
ous influences to procure allotments of  
contracts to manufacture railcoats with  
which he had a contingent fee interest.  
Gould had offices in the Metropolitan  
and Flatiron buildings. He lived at 750  
West End avenue and has a summer  
home at 312 Dickinson avenue, Edge-  
more, Queens. He is alleged to have  
caused railcoat orders to go to man-  
ufacturers with whom he had an in-  
terest, and to have received a per-  
centage of the profits. In addition to  
his own commissions, he was alleged to  
have collected sums he said were to  
go to army officers.

**Defective Output Charged.**  
The manufacturers are accused not  
only of participation with Gould in  
dealing in war contracts on a commis-  
sion basis in violation of a law passed  
to cope with evils that became rampant  
during the city war, but also with the  
issuing of defective garments on the  
Government.

Bribery is believed to have been pre-  
valent in these transactions. Gould  
was employed as an inspector of the  
Quartermaster's Department by men  
whose influence at Washington was  
strong enough to enable them to evade  
inspectors, who could not be seduced by  
money, to be discharged or transferred  
to other plants.

The men arrested with Gould and the  
conspiracy of which they were the re-  
sponsible heads were the following:  
Joseph Wood, Joseph Sydenham and  
William Sydenham of the Sydenham Rub-  
ber Company, 225 Fourth avenue.

A. Cohen, Yorkshire Manufacturing Com-  
pany, University place.  
Charles and Benjamin Plotell, Plotell  
Hosiery Company, 153 West Twelfth-  
seventh street.

Ralph Rosenthal, Hanover & Rosen-  
thal, 245 Seventh avenue.  
Arthur Zittel, Automobile Railcoat  
Company, Inc., 21 Washington place.  
Louis Fried, 45 East Twelfth street.

B. Hupel, Interborough Railcoat Com-  
pany, 681 Broadway.  
P. Clamon, Manchester Waterproof  
Co. Company, 718 and 821 Broadway.  
I. M. Halpern, National Cement Com-  
pany, 54 West Broadway.  
Simon Harris, Harris Railcoat House,  
1115 Broadway.

Morris Lesser, Lesser & Stenge, 37  
West Broadway.  
Joseph Pines, Pines Rubber Company,  
148 Thirtieth street, Brooklyn.  
H. Yellin, Eureka Rubber Company,  
College Point, Queens.

**To Be Arraigned To-day.**  
The arrest were made by men of the  
New York bureau of investigation of  
the department of justice and by  
of Houston Thompson, Assistant United  
States Attorney-General. Except Pines,  
who was arrested in Brooklyn, all the  
others were taken to the city and will  
be arraigned to-day before Samuel  
M. Hittcock, United States Commis-  
sioner.

Joseph Pines, the accused manufac-  
turer who was arrested in Brooklyn,  
was arraigned before United States Com-  
missioner Hittcock of the Eastern  
district in New York, and he was  
brought to New York by a train from  
Philadelphia, where he was arrested.

The complaint was made by Charles L.  
Fuller, chief inspector of the rubber  
division of the department of justice.  
Hall was fixed at \$5,000.

Mr. Thompson's investigation dealt  
with the railcoat phases of a nation-  
wide campaign against the sale of  
evil in war contracts, which was or-  
dered in April by Attorney-General  
Gregory. The discovery that hundreds  
of defective railcoats had been shipped  
to France brought a report from Gen.  
Pershing that caused a new phase of  
the investigation to be started.

**Obtained Data in Raid.**  
Early in the investigation a raid was  
made on the offices of a number of man-  
ufacturing concerns and much informa-  
tion of value was obtained. The clues  
obtained from these papers led the in-  
vestigators from New York to Phila-  
delphia and Washington, and eventually  
back to New York, where Gould with  
his two offices in buildings a few hun-  
dred yards apart was discovered.

Before meeting Gould, the investi-  
gators were put through a number of  
responsible manufacturers of railcoats  
who complained that they had been  
unable to win army contracts, though  
they had been the low bidders.

**1,440 TARS PLACED IN 2 WEEKS.**  
Service Bureau of Shipping Board  
Helps Merchant Marine.

BOSTON, July 22.—In the last two  
weeks the free service bureau of the  
United States Shipping Board has placed  
1,440 men in active service at the rate  
of 100 a day. There are also 1,010 men  
in the merchant marine officers' school.

**SHIP REPORTED IN DISTRESS.**  
NANTUCKET, July 22.—An airplane  
which landed at the east end of Nant-  
ucket Island to-night and reported that  
a ship was in distress near Great  
Point Shoals, about five miles away.  
The vessel was described as in need of  
immediate assistance, but the nature of  
the injuries was not disclosed.

After requesting that the Navy De-  
partment be notified and that word be  
sent also to the nearest Coast Guard  
station, the airplane was seen to dis-  
appear. The crew of the Coast Guard  
station has gone to the assistance of  
the vessel. The sea is calm.

**Hertling Recovers From Illness.**  
AMSTERDAM, July 22.—Count von  
Hertling, the German Imperial Chan-  
cellor, who has been in the care of  
physicians at main headquarters, has  
recovered from his indisposition and has  
fully resumed his duties.

## The Nation's Honor Roll

ARMY.	Reported	Total
Killed in action (including 291 at sea)	1,692	1,692
Died of wounds	14	1,706
Died of disease	3	1,709
Died of accident and other causes	7	1,716
Wounded in action	12	5,829
Missing in action (including prisoners)	17	610
Day's totals	62	10,893

(Corrected according to latest War Department figures.)

WASHINGTON, July 22.—This casualty  
list was issued to-day:

### KILLED IN ACTION.

HOSKINS, L. C., Las Vegas, N. M.  
KOHLEMEIER, G., Linn, Kan.  
MACIEVER, J. F., Berlin, Wis.  
NORRIS, J. F., Shawano, Wis.  
PERRY, C. D., Dublin, Ga.  
STEVEN, M., Magnette Lake, N. Y.  
SULLIVAN, P. J., 30 East 7th St., New  
York.

VERDOR, M. D., Gastonia, N. C.  
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**DIED FROM WOUNDS.**  
BERMAN, J. J., Bancroft, Ill.  
LACQUIN, H. R., Danville, Ore.  
ALBERTS, G. S., 418 Edgewood ave.,  
Brooklyn.

**MISSING IN ACTION.**  
BECKER, L. F., St. Louis.  
BLOTTO, D., Philadelphia.  
DORRIS, J. F., Shawano, Wis.  
GANSKI, E., Chicago.  
HICKMAN, C. M., Flatwood, W. Va.  
MURPHY, L. A., Sayre, Pa.  
SPARKS, H. D., Miami, Ky.  
VILLOTTO, T., Depew, N. Y.

**DIED OF DISEASE.**  
HUTCHINSON, M. M., Bartlesville, Okla.  
COOPER, J. S., Canby, Mo.  
FOOTNEY, J. F., 108 Tenth St., Hoboken.  
O'DELL, K. B., Buena Vista, Ark.  
SCHWARTZ, J., Philadelphia, Pa.

**DIED FROM ACCIDENT AND OTHER  
CAUSES.**  
MENTE, P. G., Heidelberg, Pa.

STONE, B. E., Shrewsbury, Mass.  
THOMAS, L., 411 West 3rd St., New York.

**WOUNDED SEVERELY.**  
GROUT, R. D., 200 West 90th St., New  
York.

WALTON, W. N., Palatka, Fla.  
TOMARGO, R. A., 40 Buffalo Av., Brook-  
lyn.

**Private.**  
BROWN, G. O., Philadelphia.  
PARKER, E. M., Stamford, Conn.  
GOODMAN, J. K., St. Louis.  
NORRIS, J. F., Shawano, Wis.  
TUMVICH, J. D., 50 Suffolk St., New  
York.

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## FIRST OF DRAFTED, FIRST TO BE SEEN

Vilotto, Who Drew No. 258,  
Said He Would Lead in  
Going Over Top.

**BROOKLYN WOMAN BRAVE**  
Sorry Rest of Children Aren't  
Boys, Her Comment on  
Son Being Wounded.

"I'll be first over the top too," re-  
marked Private Joseph Vilotto, Jr., on  
that day months ago when Secretary of  
War Baker dipped his hand into a big  
glass bowl in Washington and withdrew  
a celluloid pellet containing a small bit  
of paper upon which was written the  
serial number 258. Mr. Baker's action  
meant that every young American who  
received that number from his draft  
board would be the first in his district  
to be marshalled into Uncle Sam's then  
united National Army.

Private Vilotto kept his word, for the  
War Department notified his father, Joseph  
Vilotto of 79 Mozart street, East  
Rutherford, N. J., yesterday that his son  
had died of wounds received in action, and  
so far as any of the draft officials could  
recall young Vilotto's is the first death  
in action of any of the men who received  
the honor of being the first to be called  
in the selective draft. One or two of the  
men who held that number have been  
wounded, it was said, and at least one  
died of disease.

Vilotto marched at the head of the  
East Rutherford's first draft contingent  
when it started off for training at Camp  
Dix last September. He got to France  
five months ago. Although he was  
wounded in action on June 22, the official  
notification that came to his parents was  
the announcement they received of his  
death yesterday. He was 22 years old.

**Mother Proves Heroine.**  
A messenger boy stood ringing the  
bell to her apartment yesterday when  
Mrs. Joseph Vilotto received her son's  
death notice. She had been waiting for  
the worst of the afternoon's heat. She  
had come from St. Mary's Hospital,  
where she spends three afternoons each  
week, reading the papers and making  
the usual rounds of soldiers and sailors  
confined there, and had no word of re-  
gret when she found that the telegram  
announced that her son, Corporal Ray-  
mond A. Tomargo, had been wounded  
seriously in action in France.

"I am only sorry my other children  
are not boys and can go with me," said  
Mrs. Vilotto. "Then they could do so much  
more. I do not feel badly about this  
news, and even if I have to give him  
up, I know he will be a hero. I will  
protect him and his young sisters."

Mrs. Tomargo's two daughters spend  
most of their time adding the Twenty-  
fourth Assembly District Red Cross Aux-  
iliary in the making of bandages and  
garments for the soldiers.

Invitations to a birthday party at the  
home of Mr. and Mrs. Joseph Vilotto  
at 163 East 123d street, were recalled  
yesterday, and the joyfulness that was  
to have taken place there last night did  
not materialize.

Private Vilotto is a member of  
Company H, 165th Infantry, during  
the war. He was wounded in action in  
France. He was a member of the 68th  
Aerobatic Squadron.

Three of the nineteen years that en-  
compassed the life of Private Frank J.  
Vilotto, who died in action, were spent  
in the perfectly good record as a  
fighter that has been achieved by the  
United States Marine Corps. Word  
came yesterday that the boy had been  
killed in action at the age of 22.

Another boy from the same unit had  
forty-four flesh wounds from a burst-  
ing shell, and remarked to one of his  
comrades that he must have been aiming  
at me.

These instances show the indomitable  
spirit of our boys.

**BRAZILIAN ORE IN BIG GUNS.**  
Zirconium Alloy in Weapons Used  
to Bombard Paris.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
PARIS, July 22.—A special radiogram  
from Rome says that the Tribune pub-  
lishes a highly interesting bit of in-  
formation from Brazil concerning the  
steel used by the Germans in making  
the long range guns used in shelling  
Paris.

The steel, which is alloyed with zir-  
conium, is said to be the hardest and  
possesses the greatest resisting power  
of any metal in existence. Zirconium  
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going to France with the metropolitan  
division.  
Just before Private Edward Martin of  
College Point, Queens, was drafted last  
September he and Miss Anna Greier,  
also of College Point, were married.  
The bride was notified yesterday that  
her husband had been reported missing  
in action since June 24.

Private Carmelo Guttilla, who was  
reported killed in action, also went  
aboard with the metropolitan division.  
He was 31, and lived with his mother  
in Flushing, Queens. He went to France  
with the 308th Infantry.

Private Joseph P. Footney of 108  
Tenth street, Hoboken, died of  
heart disease just after arriving in  
France, having enlisted a year ago in  
the Regular Army.

Edward M. Pettit, reported missing in  
action, is one of the 321 men for whom  
stars were placed in the community  
service flag at Oyster Bay, to which a  
gold star was attached last week, when  
announcement was made of the death of  
Lieut. Quentin Roosevelt. He was  
drafted in April, and went to France  
with the men from Camp Upton. In his  
last letter to his relatives he announced  
he was in the best of health and about  
to make his folks proud of the name  
"Trotter."

**3 MORE PRISONERS LOCATED.**  
Lieutenant Filler Among Captives  
of Germans.

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Names of  
three additional Americans who are  
prisoners of war in Germany were re-  
ceived to-day by the War Department.  
They are Lieut. Aviator Henry Joseph  
Vilotto, address unknown; Private Al-  
berts, Brooklyn, and Harry K.  
James, Bristol, R. I.

**AMERICANS IN CANADIAN LIST.**  
Death of One United States Sol-  
dier Is Reported From Ottawa.

OTTAWA, July 22.—The following  
American names appear in to-day's  
overseas casualty list:  
Died—R. Walters, Chicago.  
Killed—R. Walters, Chicago.  
Killed—R. Walters, Chicago.

**11,533 TRAINEES IN ARMY.**  
Brotherhood Insures Against  
Death and Disability.

CLEVELAND, July 22.—W. C. Lee,  
president of the Brotherhood of Train-  
ees, announced to-day that down to  
June 22, 1918, 11,533 men had been  
trained in the army and navy. The  
members of the organization were serving  
in the army and navy. The aim  
primarily is to offer aid to the  
restoring law and order and opposing  
German aggression. The sending of a  
military force made up of contingents  
from the four nations will be explained  
on the ground that protection of Rus-  
sian as well as American and other in-  
terests makes such action necessary.

**AIRCRAFT PROBES  
GET NEW EVIDENCE**  
Gregory and Hughes Return to  
Washington After  
Graft Probe.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 22.—Attorney-  
General Gregory and Charles E. Hughes,  
the aircraft investigators who are  
on the trail of criminal acts or mal-  
versation of funds in the American air-  
craft programme returned to-day to  
Washington after several weeks at the  
Wright-D Dayton plant in Detroit and  
Chicago, where field investigations  
were being conducted.

The investigators would make no  
statement. They will be in Washing-  
ton for a week or more and then go  
to the various cities to continue  
their investigations not only in the fac-  
tories but in the homes of several  
men. A number of witnesses are to be  
called to Washington when the field work  
is completed.

**Secret of Inquiry Guarded.**  
While no statement will be made, it  
appears that interesting facts are de-  
veloped by the inquiry. It is going deep  
into the financial and administrative  
and through all transactions. It is the  
most secret Federal investigation ever  
conducted outside of the grand jury  
proceedings. The results will be  
made public until Mr. Hughes makes his  
report.

WASHINGTON, July 22.—Waste of  
millions of dollars in experimenting  
with the English Bristol and other  
types of airplanes will be reported to  
Congress by the Military Sub-  
committee investigating the aircraft pro-  
gramme, members of the committee said  
to-day in announcing that their report is  
being drafted.

Other five members of the committee,  
Senator Thomas, the chairman, and some  
members, will be that 1,200 training  
planes costing \$2,000,000 recently were  
"junked" because they were regarded as  
too dangerous for use; that several  
aviators have been killed in flights with  
dangerous types of planes; and that  
only for the sake of engineering and ad-  
ministrative sections have contributed to the  
delay in production.

**Placing Responsibility.**  
Responsibility for part of the production  
delay was placed by committee members  
on the former Aircraft Production  
Board, which was disbanded last year.  
The work now under the direction of John  
D. Ryan, Director-General of Production,  
and Major-General Kenly, the pros-  
pective director of the military aircraft  
division, is being reviewed.

All members of the committee were  
agreed that the Liberty motor is a  
complete success. It is too heavy for  
the British plane, the Sopwith, and  
that type, so successful in Great Britain,  
has been abandoned by the War  
Department.

**REPLY BY JAPAN  
SENT, IS REPORT**  
Said to Favor U. S. Proposal  
for Intervention.

By The Associated Press.  
TOKYO, July 22.—It is believed  
by political circles here that the  
Japanese Government's reply to the  
proposal made by the United States re-  
lative to Entente allied intervention in  
Siberia will be dispatched to Washington  
to-day. It is understood that the Japanese  
Government's answer accepts the Ameri-  
can proposal in every particular.

A special session of the Diet to con-  
sider the question of intervention in  
Russia is likely to be called, according  
to the newspapers to-day.

LONDON, July 22.—The Japanese Di-  
plomatic Council has agreed to the Ameri-  
can proposal for joint intervention by  
Japan and the United States in Siberia,  
says a Central News despatch from  
Tokyo under date of July 17.

A proclamation will be issued assuring  
Russia that Japan has no aggressive  
designs in intervening in Siberia.  
The despatch adds. It is probable that  
a relief commission will accompany the  
joint expedition. It is stated.

## WILSON AWAITING JAPANESE REPLY

Announcement of American  
Part in Siberian Plan  
Is Ready.

**TO OCCUPY VLADIVOSTOK**  
City to Be Used as Base, but  
Policing Will Extend  
to West.

Special Dispatch to The Sun.  
WASHINGTON, July 22.—Announce-  
ment of America's part in the plan for  
offering assistance to Russia in the form  
of an industrial and economic commis-  
sion, supported by the allied military  
force, will be made before the end of the  
week.

President Wilson has prepared this  
announcement and is merely awaiting  
word from Tokyo that the Japanese  
Government has given its assent. Un-  
official advice is to the effect that  
Japan's answer has been drawn up by  
the Emperor's Council and is now on  
its way here.

Inspired articles in the Japanese news-  
papers in the last few days have in-  
dicated that the Japanese Government  
has given its assent to the plan.  
The plan which the President will  
announce calls for the military coopera-  
tion of Japan, Great Britain, France  
and America. The President will ex-  
plain the military, industrial and eco-  
nomic details of this plan, but will not  
announce at this time the personnel of  
the large commission which will go from  
this country for the reason that not all  
of the members have been selected.

**Vladivostok to Be Base.**  
The commission and the military force  
will enter Siberia by way of Vladivostok,  
which will be used as a base. For  
protection of the line of communication  
the territory for some distance west of  
Vladivostok.

In the forthcoming announcement the  
President is expected to make it clear to  
the Russian people that the United  
States and the Allies are proceeding  
from unselfish motives and not with any  
view of direct intervention. The aim  
primarily is to offer aid to the Rus-  
sians in restoring law and order and opposing  
German aggression. The sending of a  
military force made up of contingents  
from the four nations will be explained  
on the ground that protection of Rus-  
sian as well as American and other in-  
terests makes such action necessary.

**U. S. Force to Be Small.**  
It is understood that the American  
contribution to the military force will  
be rather small. The commission, however,  
will be a most important one. President  
Wilson has left the making of the  
individual sections to certain of his  
advisers.

As The Sun stated this morning, an  
advance guard of propaganda will be  
sent in a few weeks. It was learned to-  
day, however, that the Creel Committee  
would establish headquarters in Vladivostok,  
and hereafter to pave the way for  
the commission.

Coincident with reports that Germany  
may be permitted by the Bolsheviks to  
send troops to the front, the news that  
German embassy guards, came the news  
that the American Red Cross supplies  
and war supplies sent by the Allies are  
on their way to the front. The supplies  
will be available for the vanguard of the  
expedition to be sent later to assist  
the Russians in Siberia.

**German Troops' Excuse.**  
Reports received at the State Depart-  
ment to-day revealed that the Germans  
were permitted to send troops to the  
front. The news that German embassy  
guards, came the news that the Ameri-  
can Red Cross supplies and war supplies  
sent by the Allies are on their way to  
the front. The supplies will be available  
for the vanguard of the expedition to be  
sent later to assist the Russians in Siberia.

Officials here interpreted this to mean  
that the German troops would be al-  
lowed by the Bolsheviks to enter the  
grip on Moscow, provided they gave the  
necessity of reinforcing the embassy  
guard as the reason for entering Moscow.

It may later be found that the  
Russian troops were sent to Vladivostok  
in this country for Russia, but not  
shipped to the front. The Russian rifles  
could not be used on the western front,  
though they have been used in some of  
the training camps here.

**U. S. FLIERS BAG 2 PLANES.**  
Lieuts. Putnam and Freeman Vi-  
cious—Two Germans Killed.

By The Associated Press.  
WITH THE AMERICAN ARMY IN FRANCE,  
July 21 (delayed).—Two German  
planes were shot down to-day by  
brought down Saturday by American  
aviators. Neither report has been con-  
firmed officially.

The enemy machines were  
brought down by Lieut. David E. Putnam  
of Massachusetts, Lieut. Baker  
Brody Freeman engaged in a fight  
with the enemy biplane and carried  
it to the ground.

AMSTERDAM, July 22.—Lieut. Fried-  
richs and Kirshstein, members of the  
von Richthofen squadron, have been  
killed, says the Lokale Anzeiger. Fried-  
richs was credited with twenty-one  
victories and Kirshstein with twenty-  
seven.

**BRITISH FOOD HEAD QUILTS.**  
Lord Lee Unable to Agree With  
Views of Government.

LONDON, July 22.—Lord Lee of Fare-  
ham has resigned his post as Director-  
General of Food Production, because of  
disagreement with the policy of the Min-  
istry of Agriculture. He says he is not  
sufficiently convinced of the defeat of  
the submarine campaign by the food  
supplies for the next few years, whether  
the war continues or not, to enable him  
to acquiesce in the sudden and unex-  
pected reversal of the Government's  
policy for 1918, recently approved by  
the Cabinet.

The reversal to which Lord Lee refers  
is the abandonment of the ploughing  
programme to insure future grain pro-  
duction and the reduction of the powers  
exercised by the agricultural committees  
for the enforcement of good husbandry.  
Lord Lee, formerly Sir Arthur Lee, was  
elevated to the peerage a few weeks  
ago.

**SHOOT AT GERMANS' BACKS.**  
Camp Grant Soldiers Reverse Their  
Targets.

ROCKFORD, Ill., July 22.—Five thou-  
sand Camp Grant soldiers who have been  
practicing nightly on the rifle range  
shooting at targets in the form of Ger-  
man faces have turned the targets  
around since the American victory in  
France. They are now shooting at their  
backs.

## MUNITION STRIKE IN BRITAIN AVERTED

Notices to Quit Withdrawn  
Pending National Conference.

Special Cable Dispatch to The Sun.  
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LONDON, July 22.—The threatened  
strike of part of the munition workers  
in Coventry, Manchester, Birmingham  
and other provinces has been averted  
for the present and undoubtedly will  
be settled in a few days.

Notices to quit work have been with-  
drawn pending a national conference of  
the joint engineering and allied trades.  
The strike, which was to have been  
called this evening, was due to labor  
unrest combined with ill advised notices  
issued by certain munition manufactur-  
ing concerns which indicated they were  
prohibited from employing skilled men  
under the defence of the realm act.

The notices called an entire wrong  
impression of the Labor Ministry's or-  
der, which was issued with the idea of  
transferring some skilled men to shops  
where they were imperatively needed.  
The notice gave the impression that only  
unskilled men could be employed in the  
future.

A great deal of friction might have  
been avoided had the Ministry issued  
clearer instructions or issued the notices  
through trade societies of employers and  
workmen.

This error, combined with the fact  
that many of the munition workers dis-  
trust the Labor Ministry, fearing an at-  
tempt on the part of the Government to  
break the connection with the munition  
situation which was straightened out  
only after a week of effort on the part  
of trade union officials, employers' as-  
sociations and the Government.

Winston Churchill and the trade  
union officials are now conferring with  
a view to removing all misunderstandings.  
The Government has stated that wages  
would be unaltered under the Govern-  
ment scheme of distributing labor to  
meet urgent necessities.